AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly amend the specification as follows.

1. On page 1, after the Title of the Invention kindly insert the following paragraph and section heading:

This application is the U.S. National Stage Entry of International Application No. PCT/DE 03/02245, filed July 4, 2003, which claims priority to German Application No. DE 102 30 210.3, filed July 4, 2002. The present application incorporates herein the full disclosures of both the International Application No. PCT/DE 03/02245 and the German Application No. 102 30 210.3.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

2. After the paragraph on page 1, lines 2-5, which ends with "...stabilized biomolecules.", kindly insert the following section heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

3. After the paragraph on page 3, lines 6-7, which ends with "...the main claim.", kindly insert the following section heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

4. Kindly replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 8-12, which begins with "The composition according...," with the following new paragraph:

The composition according to the present invention comprises at least one non-reducing disaccharide, selected from the group consisting of trehalose (D-glucopyranosyl-D-glucopyranoside), sucrose (β-D-fructofuranosyl-α-D-glucopyranoside), as well as derivatives thereof, and at least one protein or polypeptide of the LEA class.

5. Before the paragraph on page 3, lines 13-16, which begins with "According to a...," kindly insert the following section heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF ILLUSTRATIVE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

6. Kindly replace the paragraph on page 8, lines 8-16, which begins with "The used terms...," with the following new paragraph:

The ~~used~~ terms "stabilization" and "preservation" as used herein relate to the structural or functional integrity of biomolecules and the biological properties based thereon. The required activity of a biomolecule for a particular application requires, for example, the extensive maintenance of its primary, secondary and/or tertiary structure. The biological activity of a nucleic acid probe comprises, for example, its property for forming a hybridization complex with a nucleic acid target which is complementary to the

probe. The biological activity of an antibody comprises, for example, a specific binding of an antigen.